

**SECRET**PAD/PIC - 6  
8 February 1961

1 - NSCID #8

MEMORANDUM FOR: DD/PIC

FROM: CH/PAD

SUBJECT: Comments on NSCID #8

1. At the earliest moment the confusion between "Photographic Intelligence" and "Photographic Interpretation" should be cleared up. Letters I have seen, e.g., from the Chairman of the National Estimates Board, come addressed to the Director, National Photographic Intelligence Center. In NSCID #8, Paragraph 1, page 1, refers to "foreign intelligence exploitation of photography". Paragraph a, page 1, speaks of "no complete separation of interest is possible or desirable in photographic intelligence activities". Other references are as follows:

Paragraph b, page 2: speaks of both photographic interpretation and photographic intelligence.

Paragraph c, page 2: speaks of "a coordinated interdepartmental approach to the exploitation of photographic intelligence".

Paragraph d, page 2: speaks of "photographic intelligence analysis".

Paragraph e, page 2: speaks of "Certain photographic intelligence functions can be best performed as a central service of common concern-----".

Paragraph 2a, page 3: "National Photographic Interpretation Center".

Paragraph 2a (2), page 3: "photographic intelligence production".

Paragraph g, page 5: "The NPIC shall engage in or sponsor, as appropriate, the development of specialized equipment for the intelligence exploitation of photography, -----".

Paragraph 3, page 6: "-----shall coordinate photographic intelligence activities within his parent organization with the National Photographic Interpretation Center".

2. Will there be confusion between the names NPIC (Navy-Suitland) and NPIC (National PIC)?

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3. Paragraph 2b, page 3: A directive should stipulate in what form "foreign intelligence related photography" is to be supplied to NPIC. Just in the form of paper prints would not be desirable. A second generation DP should be required.

4. Paragraph d, page 4: The term "finished intelligence" should be well defined so that AF, Army, Navy, etc., are all on the same wave length.

5. Paragraph f, page 5: "Photographic data" should be spelled out. Does this mean a file on all known photography? Does it include plots, negs, DPs, etc. ----specifically what will NPIC file?

6. For efficiency in manpower CIA Departmental requirements should be handled at NPIC. Should this function be separated from NPIC, another pool of PI's would have to be created specializing in CM, NE, Electronics, BW-CW, etc. Since many joint projects overlap departmental needs in varying degree, this would lead to additional photo requirements, additional equipment, additional collateral support, additional administrative support, etc., and good coordination to obtain agreement between PI's at NPIC and PI's performing departmental work elsewhere. With all CIA PI's at NPIC flexibility is maximized in that as workload dictates, manpower can be shifted to joint work or to departmental work. This point seems to be covered in Para. 2c (p. 5 NSCID #8) which states "The NPIC shall also furnish such additional support to departmental and agency interests as can be provided without degradation of activities (Joint)."

7. Within NPIC it is understood that CIA, Army, Navy, AF will have their own areas and the use of a common joint project working area. In view of this, is there any plan for PAD to incorporate military billets within the PAD organization?

8. It is strongly recommended that the Joint Working Area of NPIC be retained under administrative control of PAD. Contrary to what it may seem, this is not a question of "empire building". [redacted] and I have discussed this question in detail and feel that PAD should administer the Joint Working Area. Rather than add 2 or 3 people to RS or some other group to run the Joint Area, it is recommended that 1 or 2 personnel be added to PAD/ESS. So much is involved in keeping such an area running smoothly, and from experience we believe that PAD should retain this function.

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#301  
25 January 1961

**UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD**

**MEMORANDUM FOR HOLDERS OF USIB-D-69.2/1 (Rev) (As Approved  
by President on 18 January 1961), dated 24 January 1961**

**SUBJECT: NSCID No. 8, "Photographic Interpretation"**

On page 1 of NSCID No. 8, immediately under the title, change the  
date to "(18 January 1961)".

**USIB Secretariat**

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**TOP SECRET**

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TS #172828  
USIB-D-69.2/1 (Rev)  
(As Approved by President on  
18 January 1961)  
24 January 1961

**UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD**

**SUBJECT : NSCID No. 8, "Photographic Intelligence"**

**REFERENCES :** (1) USIB-D-1.5/3, 18 January 1961  
(2) USIB-D-69.2/1 (Rev), Approved by USIB,  
4 January 1961

1. At its 12 January 1961 meeting the NSC took the following action with respect to Recommendation No. 16 of the Joint Study Group and draft NSCID No. 8 ("Photographic Intelligence"):

"Concurred in Recommendation No. 16 and approved draft NSCID No. 8 as submitted, with the provision that the National Photographic Intelligence Center (NPIC) should be under the Central Intelligence Agency; and noted the President's statement that there should be no other center duplicating the functions of the NPIC, and that the military services and other departments and agencies should state clearly to the NPIC their particular requirements."

2. Since this action was approved by the President on 18 January the new NSCID No. 8 should be considered effective as of that date. Accordingly, we are forwarding the attached copy of NSCID No. 8, as approved, for information and appropriate implementation.

3. The Secretariat is also making arrangements to have this directive reproduced and distributed to holders of the "Intelligence Directives" Handbook. Board members or other elements of the community desiring copies of this directive in excess of any they may receive as holders of the Handbook are requested to advise the Secretariat (Code 163, extension 3402) of their requirements no later than close of business 31 January.

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**JOHN HEIRES**  
Executive Secretary

Attachment  
(NSCID No. 8, classified SECRET)

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Not to be Distributed  
Outside the U. S.

NSCID No. 8  
(New Series)

Attachment  
USIB-D-69.2/1 (Rev.)  
(As approved by President on  
18 January 1961)  
24 January 1961

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL INTELLIGENCE**

**DIRECTIVE NO. 8**

**PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION**

(18 January 1961)

For the purpose of ensuring the most effective, timely and economic exploitation of photography as a source for foreign intelligence relating to the national security, and pursuant to section 102 of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, the National Security Council hereby directs that the following policies, responsibilities, and procedures shall be recognized and established:

**1. Policies**

To ensure that the capabilities of the departments and agencies represented on the Intelligence Board are most efficiently utilized for the foreign intelligence exploitation of photography the following basic principles shall apply:

- a. No complete separation of interest is possible or desirable in photographic intelligence activities.

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24 January 1961

b. Departments and agencies represented on the U. S. Intelligence Board shall continue to be individually responsible for photographic interpretation and the production of photographic intelligence in support of established departmental or agency responsibilities and the utilization of such photography and related collateral information in the production of intelligence, such as, warning intelligence, orders of battle, estimates, technical intelligence, precise geodetic data, targeting, maps, charts, matrices or other targeting materials and related research and development.

c. To promote an integration of effort and to avoid unnecessary duplication and expense, a coordinated interdepartmental approach to the exploitation of photographic intelligence shall be established.

d. Subject to applicable security measures and on a "need-to-know" basis, there shall be full interchange of all pertinent photographs and photographic intelligence analysis among the departments and agencies concerned.

e. Certain photographic intelligence functions can be best performed as a central service of common concern, for the maximum benefit of the entire intelligence community.

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**2. Centralized Responsibilities**

a. A National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC) shall be provided as a service of common concern by the Director of Central Intelligence in consultation with the interested members of the USIB.

(1) The Director of the NPIC shall be designated by the Director of Central Intelligence after consultation with the interested USIB members and with the concurrence of the Secretary of Defense.

(2) The Intelligence Board departments and agencies engaged in photographic intelligence production shall jointly provide appropriate personnel and other support for the Center, as agreed by them with the Director of Central Intelligence. Such supporting personnel shall be functionally under the direction of the Director, NPIC, for joint activities, but shall remain administratively responsible to their parent organizations.

(3) The administration of NPIC in time of war shall be transferred to the Secretary of Defense.

b. Foreign intelligence related photography shall be made available from photographic processing facilities to the Center and to designated

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24 January 1961

photographic intelligence units of Intelligence Board departments, agencies and commands simultaneously, and without delay for preliminary analysis, within the bounds of any special security controls required.

c. The NPIC shall provide on a selective basis for the preliminary, rapid interpretation of photographic detail, including where possible tentative identification of such detail; and shall make appropriate distribution of such preliminary interpretations, with supporting references to appropriate related collateral information, to interested elements of the community.

d. It is the intent of this directive that NPIC not engage in the production and dissemination of finished intelligence. Photography which appears to be primarily of departmental or agency significance shall be the primary exploitation responsibility of the department or agency concerned. The Center, itself, shall produce and disseminate NPIC photographic interpretation reports (based on an analysis of photography using other sources to assist in this interpretation) and provide other materials and services, in support of the national intelligence effort and approved Priority National Intelligence Objectives.

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e. The NPIC shall also furnish such additional support to departmental and agency interests as can be provided without degradation of activities already specified in paragraph 2. c. and d., above.

f. The NPIC shall maintain on a selective basis a consolidated central file of photographic data as a service of common concern. It shall make arrangements for the exchange of photographs and photographic data with other photographic collections in the Intelligence Community, and shall make appropriate recommendations to facilitate the coordinated development of compatible codes, indexes, and mechanized systems for the efficient recovery, selection and collation of available photographic data.

g. The NPIC shall engage in or sponsor, as appropriate, the development of specialized equipment for the intelligence exploitation of photography, and shall provide information about such specialized equipment to interested elements of the intelligence community for their own possible use or further adaptation.

h. The NPIC shall examine and make recommendations to the U. S. Intelligence Board, as appropriate, as to any special security controls required.

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3. Coordination

In discharging its responsibilities the NPIC shall consult, as appropriate, with individual departments, agencies and committees of the U. S. Intelligence Board. The intelligence chief of each department or agency represented on the U. S. Intelligence Board shall coordinate photographic intelligence activities within his parent organization with the National Photographic Interpretation Center.

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